

MONO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN DRAFT EIR



SECTION 4.13

PUBLIC SERVICES & UTILITIES

4.13.1 INTRODUCTION, SUMMARY AND KEY TERMS

This section describes existing services and utility systems in Mono County, and the potential impacts on these services and systems that may occur in association with the proposed comprehensive update to the county General Plan & RTP. Information for this section is drawn from the Mono County MEA Chapter IV (Services), as well as the *Draft RTP*, the *Draft Resource Efficiency Plan* (and associated technical calculations) and other source documents as referenced in this section. The reader is referred to EIR §4.6 for discussion of hazards (including fire hazards and emergency services), and to §4.8 for discussion of hydrology and water supply. None of the NOP comment letters addressed issues pertaining to public services and utilities. Findings of the analyses contained in this §4.13 are summarized below.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL PLAN IMPACTS & POLICY MITIGATIONS FOR SERVICES AND UTILITIES

IMPACT 4.13(a):	<u>REQUIRE NEW POLICE, SCHOOL, OR OTHER SERVICES</u>
Pre-Mitigation Significance:	Potentially Significant Impacts
Mitigating Policies:	See Table 4.13-9 in Appendix D
Residual Significance:	Potentially Significant Impacts
IMPACT 4.13-2:	<u>RESULT IN WASTEFUL, INEFFICIENT CONSUMPTION OF ENERGY</u>
Pre-Mitigation Significance:	Less than Significant
Mitigating Policies:	See Table 4.13-9 in Appendix D
Residual Significance:	Less than Significant
IMPACT 4.13-3:	<u>BE SERVED BY A LANDFILL WITH INSUFFICIENT PERMITTED CAPACITY</u>
Pre-Mitigation Significance:	Less than Significant
Mitigating Policies:	See Table 4.13-9 in Appendix D
Residual Significance:	Less than Significant

4.13.2 KEY TERMS USED IN THIS SECTION

Diversion rate. The proportion of wastes diverted for recycling, composting, or reuse.

Household hazardous waste. Products used in residences, such as paints and some cleaning compounds that are toxic to living organisms and/or the environment.

Landfill. A disposal site where solid waste, such as paper, glass, and metal, is buried between layers of dirt and other materials in such a way as to reduce contamination of the surrounding land.

Transfer station. A major facility at which municipal solid waste from collection vehicles is consolidated into loads that are transported by larger trucks or other means to more-distant final disposal facilities, typically landfills.

Waste reduction. All means of reducing the amount of waste that is collected by solid waste authorities. The term includes legislation, product design, and local programs to keep reusable materials out of the final waste stream.

4.13.3 BASELINE CONDITIONS

4.13.1 POLICE SERVICES

Police services in the unincorporated area are provided by the Mono County Sheriff's Department; inside the town boundaries, the Town of Mammoth Lakes Police Department provides police services. The county Sheriff's Department is responsible for jail operations (for persons arrested in both the Town limits and the County limits), and provides coroner operations, processing and serving civil paperwork, and search and rescue operations. The Sheriff's Department provides dispatch services to the Mammoth Lakes Police Department and the Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District under a contractual agreement (the town Police Department is charged a fee for this service, the Fire District is not). Most Sheriff's Department work occurs in Mammoth Lakes, including 70% of the civil division workload, about 60% of jail bookings, and 50% of the coroner's activities. However, 95% of search and rescue operations occur outside the Town limits.

The Mono County Sheriff is the designated county Director of Emergency Services and is responsible for implementing the Mono County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP; see §4.6 for discussion of emergency services). The California Highway Patrol has primary responsibility for traffic control and accident investigation on state and federal highways throughout the county, including SR 203 through Mammoth. The Sheriff's Department and the town Police Department have mutual aid agreements with each other and with surrounding jurisdictions.

4.13.2 SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

Mono County is served by two school districts: the Eastern Sierra Unified School District and the Mammoth Unified School District. Students in Paradise and the Tri-Valley area may also attend school in Bishop, either at the Round Valley School District (elementary school) or the Bishop Unified School District (high school).

The Eastern Sierra Unified School District operates elementary schools in Coleville, Bridgeport, Lee Vining, and Benton, and high schools in Coleville and Lee Vining. High school students in Bridgeport are bused to Coleville; high school students in Benton attend school in Bishop; most students from June Lake attend school in Lee Vining.

Mammoth Unified School District operates an elementary school, a middle school and a high school (all located in Mammoth), and serves students from Mammoth and the Crowley Lake area. Enrollment fluctuates in keeping with the large transient population. The MUSD has land available for a future school site in the Crowley Lake area (20 acres), where a ballfield has been developed and is operated by the County. Adult education opportunities in the county are available in Mammoth Lakes. Cerro Coso Community College offers classes leading to a two-year Associate of Arts degree. The town Parks and Recreation Department offers a variety of recreational and education classes.

Table 4.13-1 lists the 21 schools and facilities that are located in Mono County, including programs from Early Start (which provides coordinated services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families) through continuing education (a high school diploma program that meets the needs of students aged 16 to 18 who have not graduated from high school, are not exempt from compulsory school attendance, and are deemed at risk of not completing their education).

TABLE 4.13-1: Schools in Mono County

ANTELOPE ELEMENTARY, (530) 495-2541
111527 US 395, Coleville, CA 96107

BRIDGEPORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, (760) 932-7441
205 Kingsley St, Bridgeport, CA 93517-0577

COLEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL, (530) 495-2231
111591 US 395, Coleville, CA 96107

EARLY START, (760) 924-7382
960 Forest Trail Rd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

EASTERN SIERRA UNIFIED SCH. DIST, (760) 932-7443
231 Kingsley St, Bridgeport, CA 93517-0575

EDNA BEAMAN ELEMENTARY SCH., (760) 933-2397
25541 US 6, Benton, CA 93512-0947

JAN WORK CMTY/ADULT SCH. (760) 934-0031
451 Sierra Park Rd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-0130

LEE VINING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, (760) 647-6460
132 Lee Vining Ave, Lee Vining, CA 93541-0270

LEE VINING HIGH SCHOOL, (760) 647-6366
51710 US 395, Lee Vining, CA 93541-0268

MAMMOTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, (760) 934-7545
1500 Meridian Blvd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-3209

MAMMOTH MIDDLE SCHOOL, (760) 934-7072 1600
Meridian Blvd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-2429

MAMMOTH HIGH SCHOOL, (760) 934-8541
365 Sierra Park Rd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-3149

MAMMOTH UNIFIED SCHOOL DIST., (760) 934-6802
461 Sierra Park Rd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-3509

MONO COUNTY FIRST 5, (760) 924-7626
365 Sierra Park Rd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

MONO CO. OFF. OF EDUCATION (North) (760) 932-7311
37 Emigrant St, Bridgeport, CA 93517-0477

MONO CO. OFF. OF EDUCATION (South) (760) 934-0031
451 Sierra Park Rd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-0130

MONO CO. OFF. OF EDUCATION (IT) (760) 934-4225
365 Sierra Park Rd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-0130

MONO COUNTY LIBRARIAN, (760) 934-4777
400 Sierra Park Rd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-1120

SAWTOOTH RIDGE CMTY SCHOOL, (530) 495-4358
111591 US 395, Coleville, CA 96107

SIERRA HIGH SCHOOL (Continuation), (760) 934-3702
461 Sierra Park Rd, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546-3509

TIOGA COMMUNITY SCHOOL, (760) 206-6017
132 Lee Vining Ave, Lee Vining, CA 93541

CHURCH ON THE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL, (760) 935.4272
384 South Landing Rd, Crowley Lake, CA 93546

4.13.3 GENERAL GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES

Mono County provides general governmental services to residents of the unincorporated areas, and many of these services are also provided to Town residents:

- Administration
- Superior Courts
- District Attorney
- Public Works (includes recreation)
- Assessor
- Community Development
- Animal Control
- Library Services
- Sheriff/Coroner
- Finance
- Tax Collection
- Public Health services
- Social and Child Support Services
- Behavioral Services
- Environmental Health
- Clerk/Recorder-Registrar
- Finance/Auditor
- Paramedic Services
- Economic Development
- Agricultural Commission

County services are provided in Bridgeport (the County seat) as well as leased branch offices in Mammoth Lakes. As the most populous area of Mono County, Town residents are responsible for much of the demand for services, particularly in terms of the Superior Court, the District Attorney, the Probation Department, and the Mental Health Department (fully 80% of Health Department services are provided in Mammoth).

Administrative Services. Administrative services are provided by the County Administrative Officer (CAO). CAO duties include planning, monitoring and coordinating County operations, assuring that Board policies are carried out in a cost-effective manner, formulation of short- and long-range plans and budgets, review and monitoring of County programs and services and budgets, coordinating the work of department heads, interpretation of Board policies, Board representation in County intergovernmental relations, and other general administrative duties. The Mono County Director of Human Resources and Risk Management reports to the CAO.

Superior Courts. The Superior Court of California operates two courthouses in Mono County. The north County branch is located in the historic Bridgeport Courthouse in central Bridgeport on US 395. Directly adjacent to the county jail, the north County Superior Court branch is used almost exclusively for arraignments. The South County branch (completed in 2011) is located in Mammoth Lakes and contains two courtrooms in a 20,000-sf structure located at the intersection of SR 203 and Sierra Park Road. The facility is part of a planned future regional government center to be located in Mammoth Lakes. The South County courthouse handles a majority of the civil and criminal workload as well as most jury trials. The MEA notes that most of the case filings involve recreational visitors.

District Attorney (DA). The District Attorney is responsible for promoting and protecting public peace and safety in Mono County. The DA prosecutes all criminal matters in the county, and provides legal and investigative assistance to other County law enforcement agencies.

Public Works. The Facilities Division of the Public Works Department operates and maintains recreational sites and public buildings throughout the county. Public Works also oversees the maintenance and operations of three public cemeteries in the county. The County operates cemeteries at Bridgeport, Mono Lake, and Long Valley. The County maintains roads, provides snow removal, and operates road yards at Benton, Crowley, Lee Vining, Bridgeport, and Walker. The County also operates recreational and community facilities in most communities; those facilities are discussed in EIR §4.9 (Recreation). The Department of Public Works is responsible for developing plans and specifications for capital improvement projects, serves as Airport Engineer, County Surveyor and Floodplain Administrator, reviews land development projects and applications, and administers final subdivision maps.

Assessor. The County Assessor annually assesses all taxable property, is responsible for identifying all assessable property, inventories and lists all taxable properties, develops and maintains a set of property ownership maps, values properties and enrolls properties on the local assessment roll for the support of local government.

Community Development Department (CDD). CDD consists of Planning, Building and Code Compliance divisions, provides varied development services and staff services for the Planning Commission, Local Transportation Commission, Land Development Technical Advisory Committee, LAFCO, Long Valley Hydrologic Advisory Committee, Airport Land Use Commission, RPACs and the Mono County Collaborative Planning Team.

Animal Control. Animal control is a public health and safety enforcement agency with responsibility for protecting people from animals and for protecting animals from people, when and where needed.

Libraries. The Mono County Library District operates a countywide system that is administered by the County Board of Education. The main library is located in Bridgeport, and branch libraries are located in Coleville, Lee Vining, June Lake, Crowley, Mammoth, and Benton. A Bookmobile circulates throughout the county. Books, articles, and other material unavailable through the local system can be acquired through the Mountain Valley interlibrary loan system.

Finance. The Auditor-Controller provides independent accounting, reporting and auditing services to County departments, special districts and schools. The Treasurer-Tax Collector's office serves as depository for funds of the County, school district, State and other special districts; provides all banking functions (including processing of deposits and payments); invests surplus funds; processes business licenses; collects and enforces transient occupancy taxes; and manages billing, collecting and accounting for all secured and unsecured property taxes.

Public Health Department. Mono County Public Health Department supports the health and safety of county residents with immunizations, HIV and related disease programs, communicable disease prevention and surveillance, tuberculosis programs, health promotion, emergency preparedness, children's services, programs for child health and

disability prevention as well as women and infants and children and other similar services. Hospital and emergency care services are provided locally at Mammoth Hospital, while serious cases are transported by helicopter to facilities in Bishop, Reno, Fresno, or southern California depending on the case. Basic health care services are available at the Bridgeport Family Medicine Clinic, and the Toiyabe Health Care Clinic ('Camp Antelope') in Walker provides health care services to Native Americans. The Department provides a variety of health care services at medical facilities located in Mammoth Lakes and Bridgeport and acts as an information and referral center, providing health education materials and varied preventive services such as immunizations and screenings. The Department also administers state-mandated public health programs. Mental health services are provided by the Mental Health Department, with offices in Mammoth Lakes.

Social Services and Child Support Services. The Social Services Department provides foster care, health care reform, welfare fraud detection, and related services to needy and vulnerable children and adults living in Mono County with the goal of strengthening families and encouraging personal responsibility and independence.

Behavioral Services. The Behavioral Health department offers counseling, therapy, case management, psychiatry and alcohol and other drug treatment to county residents. The Department also manages two wellness centers (one in Mammoth Lakes and one in Walker), offers out-patient counseling and provides all Court-mandated services including DUI and PC1000 programs.

Environmental Health. Environmental Health regulates food establishments, sewage disposal facilities, swimming pools, water systems, well construction, recreational health facilities, occupied housing, underground storage tanks, solid waste facilities, land use development, rabies and vector control, and the management of hazardous wastes.

Clerk/Recorder. The Recorder's Office is responsible for processing, maintaining and updating records including official documents, birth and death certificates, marriage certificates, fictitious business names, elections, voter registration and absentee voting.

Mono County Emergency Medical Services (EMS). EMS responds to emergency medical calls and inter-facility ambulance transports in the region. Rugged terrain and weather conditions pose unique challenges for EMS, and interagency agreements with local fire departments allow EMS to maximize personnel and resources to provide emergency services; in turn, additional training allows EMS to assist in firefighting. Personnel also receive training in low angle rope rescue and ice rescue. EMS staffs four Advanced Life Support ambulances around the clock, plus two reserve ALS units for use as needed.

Mono County Economic Development. The Economic Development Department is responsible for improving and enhancing economic conditions for Mono County residents and businesses to ensure long-term sustainability. The Department works to create jobs, promote tourism and existing businesses, and to create a business environment that is attractive to new ventures. To ensure long-term economic success and environmental sustainability, the Department collaborates with a variety of local and regional agencies, organizations and individuals.

Inyo and Mono Counties Agricultural Commissioner. This office promotes and protects the agricultural industry in both counties, protects the environment and citizen health and safety, and fosters confidence and equity in the marketplace. Program areas include Human Safety and Environmental Protection, Consumer Protection and Product Quality, and Special Agricultural Services such as apiary, crop, sustainable agriculture and inspection statistics.

4.13.3.1 Town of Mammoth Lakes. The Town of Mammoth Lakes provides a number of general governmental services to full time residents and second homeowners, including but not limited to the following:

- Administration
- Animal Control
- Airport and Transportation
- Community Development
- Mammoth Lakes Housing Support
- Public Safety
- Public Works
- Tourism and Recreation
- Visitors Bureau

4.13.4 SPECIAL DISTRICTS (Water, Fire, Sanitation, Utilities)

Numerous special districts provide specific services throughout Mono County. As part of the GHG emissions analysis conducted for the *RTP/General Plan Update*, the County has estimated that residents, businesses, and visitors in the unincorporated areas of Mono County used 1,270 million gallons (MG) of water during 2010. Based on data from area water providers, approximately 70% of this water was supplied from surface water bodies and 30% from groundwater. Following consumption by residential, commercial, or agricultural uses, nearly 40% of total water used is conveyed for wastewater treatment (the remaining 60% evaporates, is absorbed into the ground, or runs into water bodies or storm drains). Wastewater treatment in the unincorporated areas of Mono County is provided by individual septic tanks or through small-scale community sewer treatment facilities. Septic tanks are used by approximately 65% of the population, while sewer treatment facilities accommodate the remaining 35%. There are approximately 2,200 septic systems located in the unincorporated county, and approximately 1,110 sanitary sewer connections to the Bridgeport Public Utilities District (PUD), Hilton Creek Community Service District, June Lake PUD, and Lee Vining PUD. Basic information from the Mono County MEA (Ch. IV, Services) about all special districts is provided below, along with detailed information about the community service districts, community service areas and community utility service areas and districts obtained from the Municipal Service and Sphere of Influence reviews prepared by Mono County LAFCO. Additional Information concerning the facilities and service capabilities of Fire Protection Districts is provided in EIR §4.6 (Health, Safety, Hazards and Hazardous Materials); for additional information about community water service systems, please see EIR §4.8 (Hydrology, Flooding, Water Supply and Water Quality).

Antelope Valley Fire Protection District (AVFPD). AVFPD provides structural fire protection to Antelope Valley residents from the district's main fire station in Walker and another station in Topaz. The two stations are manned by nearly 20 volunteer firefighters, and approximately 20 fire hydrants are available at locations throughout the district. The average emergency response time in AVFPD is about five minutes; the fire chief estimates that 10% of residents have a response time of 20 or more minutes. The district also responds to fires in locations beyond its boundaries, including Sonora Junction, Sonora Pass, west along SR 89 to the county line, and about five miles into Nevada northeast along Eastside Lane. AVFPD has formal agreements to provide fire protection service for the Marine Corps housing facility in Topaz and to the Indian housing facility east of Walker. The district provides emergency medical response; fewer than 10 of the volunteers are trained EMTs, other volunteers receive some level of formal EMS training. Volunteers assist and provide backup response to the County's paramedic unit, based at the fire station in Walker. Medic-1 provides Advanced Life Support (ALS) services to the Antelope Valley area. The district also performs pre-development reviews and building permit approvals. All volunteer firefighters have completed Awareness Hazmat training (10 have completed Operational Hazmat training) and can provide service for Hazmat spills. Firefighters are also trained in extrication, swift water rescue, and rope rescue.

Antelope Valley Water District. The Antelope Valley Water District is currently inactive and provides no services at this time. The District has no plans for water system improvements or the provision of any services at this time. The district owns no facilities or equipment. The district owns a 16-foot by 668-foot strip of land running from Meadow Drive to the West Walker River in Walker (APN 002-290-022-000). Other services in the Antelope Valley area are provided by various public and private entities.

Birchim Community Services District (Sunny Slopes). Birchim Community Services District (BCSD) was established in 1963 to provide domestic water services for Sunny Slopes. The BCSD boundaries include approximately 80 acres of land in the community of Sunny Slopes. The Birchim CSD provides water for domestic use and fireflow protection to district residents. Water is obtained from three wells on district owned land. Untreated well water is distributed to 71 dwelling units through a combination of 4-inch and 6-inch transit pipes. Water usage varies by year. In 2008, BCSD's annual water demand was almost 17 million gallons. BCSD implements water conservation measures, including restrictions on the timing of irrigation. The BCSD anticipates adding approximately 20 connections in the future. The BCSD distributes water conservation materials annually. As a Community Service District, BCSD is authorized to provide a wide array of services, including water treatment and distribution, fire protection, mosquito abatement services, parks and recreational services, sewage collection and disposal, snow removal/road maintenance, street lighting, police protection, and library services.

Bridgeport Fire Protection District. Structural fire protection is provided to valley residents from the district's main fire station in Bridgeport and a second station in Twin Lakes. The station is manned by about 20 volunteer firefighters, with nearly all of them being able to respond midday. There are about 85 fire hydrants within the district. The district estimates that 55% of the district is accessible within five minutes, 40% is accessible within 10 minutes, and the remaining 5% within 15 minutes. The average response time to an emergency within the district is approximately five minutes. The district also responds to calls along State Route 182 to the Nevada state line, Bodie, Conway Summit, Virginia Lakes, Swauger Creek, Devil's Gate, and Willow Springs. The district provides emergency medical response with less than 10 of the volunteer firefighters qualified as EMTs. The remaining volunteers are trained in CPR and first aid. The county Paramedics operate Medic-7 in Bridgeport, providing Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) services in the Bridgeport Valley. The district also reviews development proposals and building permits (as do other fire protection districts) and provides school safety programs and community education.

Bridgeport Public Utility District. The district provides water and sewer services to the community of Bridgeport, including the Bridgeport townsite, the Evans Tract, and the Bridgeport Reservoir subdivision. The district also provides water and sewer services to the Indian Housing on a contract basis. The district currently has nearly 300 water connections and almost 100 sewer connections. As a Public Utility District, Bridgeport PUD is authorized to provide additional services including lighting, power, heat, transportation, telephone service and other methods of communication, garbage disposal, golf courses, fire protection, mosquito abatement, parks and recreation, building for public purposes, and drainage improvements.

Chalfant Valley Fire Department/Community Services District. Structural fire protection is provided to valley residents from the district's fire station in Chalfant. The station is manned by about 15 volunteer firefighters, with less than five of them being able to respond midday. There are currently about 10 fire hydrants within the district. The district estimates that 20% of the district is accessible within five minutes, 20% is accessible within 10 minutes, an additional 40% within 15 minutes and the last 20% within 20 or more minutes. The average response time to an emergency within the district is approximately 10 minutes. The district also responds to calls from the Hammil Valley which is outside its boundaries. The district provides emergency medical response with just a few of the volunteer firefighters qualified as EMTs/paramedic. About 10 of the volunteers are trained as First Responders. The district operates an ambulance that provides Basic Life Support (BLS) services. There are no Advanced Life Support (ALS) services in the Tri-Valley; the nearest ALS services are in Bishop, 15-20 minutes away. Mono County currently provides an ambulance and fuel for the district's use, under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Under a separate MOU, the County subsidizes BLS response times and services in the Tri-Valley by providing financial support for emergency medical calls in the area. The funds received from the County for calls in which district personnel provide BLS services and/or transportation may be used by the district as compensation for the volunteers who provided the services as an incentive to retain, train, and recruit volunteers with emergency medical skills and certification. The district also reviews development proposals and building permits and tests fire hydrants. As a Community Services District, BCSD is authorized to provide a wide array of services, including water treatment and distribution, fire protection, mosquito abatement services, parks and recreational services, sewage collection and disposal, snow removal/road maintenance, street lighting, police protection, and library services.

County Service Area #1 (CSA #1). CSA #1 extends from the Geothermal Plant on the north to the communities of Sunny Slopes and Tom's Place on the south. CSA #1 provides low power television transmission to antennae users within district boundaries, and assisted in establishing the Crowley Lake community garden. The district also financed the construction of the Crowley Lake Community Center and has budgeted for landscaping for the center. As a County Service Area, the district is also authorized to provide a wide array of services, including television service, police, fire protection, parks and recreation, library, water, sewer, animal control, pest and rodent control, street sweeping, street lighting, refuse collection, ambulance, geological hazard abatement, and other miscellaneous extended services.

County Service Area #2 (CSA #2). CSA #2 provides television services to communities in the Tri-Valley as well as search and rescue services (the district has two all-terrain vehicles with a trailer that are available for use during emergencies) and disaster supplies (the district provides a storage container in Benton that is used by the county Department of Social Services for disaster supplies). The district assists other agencies (such as the White Mountain FPD, Chalfant FPD, the Chalfant Community Center/Senior Center and the Benton Senior Center) with miscellaneous services. As a County

Service Area, the district is also authorized to provide a wide array of services including police and fire protection, parks and recreation, library, water, sewer, animal control, pest and rodent control, street sweeping, street lighting, refuse collection, ambulance, geological hazard abatement, and other miscellaneous extended services.

County Service Area #5 (CSA #5). CSA #5, in the Bridgeport Valley, was formed to provide low power television transmission to antennae users within the Bridgeport Valley, but its infrastructure has fallen into disrepair. Because the majority of residents within the district no longer use television service, the district is considering exercising some of their latent powers in order to provide services other than television. As a County Service Area, the district is also authorized to provide a wide array of services including police and fire protection, parks and recreation, library, water, sewer, animal control, pest and rodent control, street sweeping, street lighting, refuse collection, ambulance, geological hazard abatement, and other miscellaneous extended services.

Countywide Service Area (CSA, all of Mono County). Services are provided to specific areas of the county where Zones of Benefit (ZOB) have been established for that purpose. The following services are currently provided under the auspices of the CWCSA:

Zone of Benefit	Service Area	Service(s) Provided
Silver Lake Pines	Petersen Tract, June Lake	Road and drainage maintenance
ZOB "B"	Rimrock Ranch, Swall Meadows	Ground water monitoring
ZOB "C"	Rimrock Ranch, Swall Meadows	Road and drainage maintenance
TM37-50	Lakeridge Ranch, Crowley Lake	Road and drainage maintenance
JL Highlands	June Lake Highlands, June Lake	Road and drainage maintenance
TM37-49A	Rimrock Ranch, Swall Meadows	Road and drainage maintenance
TM37-48	Sierra Meadows, Crowley Lake	Road and drainage maintenance
PM34-57	Premier Properties, June Lake	Drainage maintenance
TM37-53	Osage Circle, Chalfant	Road and drainage maintenance

Services are generally provided by the county Road Department in each area. Some work is contracted out. As a County Service Area, the district is also authorized to provide a wide array of services, including television service, police, fire protection, parks and recreation, library, water, sewer, animal control, pest and rodent control, street sweeping, street lighting, refuse collection, ambulance, geological hazard abatement, and other miscellaneous extended services.

Hilton Creek Community Services District (HCCSD). HCCSD was established in 1963 to provide sewage collection and disposal for Crowley Lake (Hilton Creek). The community of Crowley Lake is part of a larger area known as Long Valley. As a Community Service District, the Hilton Creek CSD is also authorized to provide a variety of services including snow removal/road maintenance, mosquito abatement, water treatment and distribution, fire protection, parks and recreational services, street lighting, police protection, and library services.

June Lake Fire Protection District (June Lake FPD). The FPD serves a full time residential population and a substantial visitor population in the community of June Lake. It provides fire prevention/suppression and emergency medical response services, wildland firefighting, permit approvals and development proposal reviews, and hydrant testing and maintenance. Firefighters are trained for structural firefighting, medical services, wildland firefighting, hazardous materials, vehicle extrication, over the side rescue, ice rescue, and various other topics.

June Lake Public Utility District (June Lake PUD). June Lake PUD serves a full time residential population and a substantial visitor population in the community of June Lake. The residential population is approximately 400 people; the seasonal visitor population is approximately 2,500 people. The district provides water treatment and distribution, sewer collection and treatment, and mosquito abatement services. The district provides water services to June Lake Village, West Village, and Down Canyon areas within the district, as well as to areas outside the district (Pine Cliff, Oh! Ridge, and June Lake Junction). There are two separate water systems in the district: the Village System and the Down Canyon System. The district provides sewer services to June Lake Village, Down Canyon, and the USFS's Silver Lake Tract. Sewer service is provided on a contractual basis to USFS areas including Pine Cliff Resort, 'Oh! Ridge' campground, June Lake campground, Upper Reverse Creek and Lower Gull Lake campgrounds, Silver Lake campground, Grant Lake Marina and several parking facilities along June Lake Loop. In whole, the district currently has

about 665 water and sewer connections. In addition to water and sewer services, the district also provides mosquito abatement services throughout the June Lake Loop. As a Public Utility District, the district is authorized to provide lighting, power, heat, transportation, telephone service, other methods of communication, garbage disposal, golf courses, fire protection, parks and recreation, building for public purposes, and drainage improvements.

Lee Vining Fire Protection District. The district serves a full time residential population and a substantial visitor population in the community of Lee Vining. It provides fire prevention/suppression and emergency medical response services, wildland firefighting, search and rescue, permit approvals and development proposal reviews, and hydrant testing and maintenance.

Lee Vining Public Utility District The district provides water and sewer services to the Lee Vining townsite. As a Public Utility District, the district is also authorized to provide lighting, power, heat, transportation, telephone service, other methods of communication, garbage disposal, golf courses, fire protection, mosquito abatement, parks and recreation, building for public purposes, and drainage improvements.

Mono City Fire Protection District. The district serves a full time residential population and a second home owner population in the community of Mono City. It provides fire prevention/suppression services, wildland firefighting, testing of active systems, and hydrant testing.

Long Valley Fire Protection District. The district serves a full time residential population in the Crowley Lake communities as well as business and industrial uses at the Geothermal Plant, Sierra Business Park, and travelers along Highway 395. It provides fire prevention/suppression and emergency medical response services, search and rescue, wildland firefighting, hazmat handling, technical rescue, hydrant testing, school safety programs, community education, permit approvals and development proposal reviews.

Mammoth Community Water District (MCWD). MCWD serves a full time residential population, business and industrial uses, and a large visitor population in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. The district provides water treatment and distribution, sewer collection and treatment, and fire hydrant maintenance. The district also provides water and sewer services to USFS facilities and some permittees in the Lakes Basin, to the Sierra Pack Station area, and to Sherwin Creek Campground. It also provides water service to Shady Rest Park and Mammoth Creek Park. The district currently has almost 10,000 water connections and 8,500 sewer connections. Connections are listed in "meter equivalency units", where one meter equivalency unit is equal to one single-family residence that utilizes a ¾" water meter. Future proposed connections include nearly 5,500 water connections and 9,400 sewer connections. As a county water district, the district is also authorized to provide electric power, drainage and reclamation of lands within the district, fire protection, and the construction and operation of recreational facilities on water, or land under its control. Under special legislation, within its district boundaries, MCWD is also authorized to operate a propane gas distribution service (Water Code §31013), and a geothermal heating service (§31013.5).

Mammoth Lakes Community Services District (Mammoth Lakes CSD). The Mammoth Lakes CSD was formed in 1982 to implement a road improvement project. The CSD currently provides road maintenance and snow removal in its service area. The district has no facilities and employs no personnel. The district contracts out for the following services: road repair, snow removal, accounting, and legal services.

Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District. The district serves a full time residential population as well as business and industrial uses and a large visitor population in Mammoth Lakes throughout the year. The district provides fire prevention and suppression services, emergency medical response services, search and rescue, wildland firefighting, hazmat handling, technical rescue, fuel reduction programs, hydrant testing, school safety programs, community education, permit approvals and development proposal reviews.

Mammoth Lakes Mosquito Abatement District (MAD): MAD provides mosquito abatement services to the Old Mammoth area in Mammoth Lakes using the Best Practice Method (BPM) of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The District currently has no staff and contracts with the Owens Valley Mosquito Abatement District for services.

Paradise Fire Protection District. The district serves a full time residential population in the community of Paradise as well as travelers along US 395. It provides fire prevention/suppression and emergency medical response services, HazMat response, wildland firefighting, technical rescue, permit approvals and development proposal reviews.

Wheeler Crest Community Service District. The district currently has about 50 water connections, in two separate water systems. The Hilltop Estates water system serves 14 lots in Hilltop Estates, all of which are developed. Water from an artesian well in the west end of Swall Meadows is gravity fed to a 7,500-gallon underground reservoir and from there to individual residences. The Lower Swall Meadows water system serves over 80 lots in the Pinon Ranch and Rimrock Ranch subdivisions, of which 35 lots are developed. The system includes two wells, a 100,000-gallon reservoir at the top of Pinon Ranch, a 120,000-gallon reservoir at the top of Rimrock Ranch, and a gravity-fed distribution system with 22 fire hydrants. The district does not serve any areas outside its boundaries but does donate water for the Wheeler Crest Fire Protection District's training exercises. The district is also authorized to provide a wide array of services, including water treatment and distribution, sewage collection and disposal, road maintenance, mosquito abatement, fire protection, parks and recreational services, street lighting, police protection, and library services.

Wheeler Crest Fire Protection District. The district serves a full time residential population in the community of Wheeler Crest. It provides fire prevention/suppression and emergency medical response services, wildland firefighting, limited technical rescue, permit approvals and development proposal reviews.

White Mountain Fire Protection District (Benton/Hammil). The district serves a full time residential population in the communities of Benton and Hammil Valley as well as travelers along State Route 6. It provides fire prevention/suppression and emergency medical response services, HazMat response, wildland firefighting, permit approvals and development proposal reviews.

4.13.5 OTHER UTILITIES¹

Electricity. Electricity in Mono County is supplied by two utility providers: Southern California Edison (SCE) and Liberty Utilities. In 2010, approximately 18,888,200 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity were consumed in unincorporated Mono County for residential use, and about 29,344,800 kWh were consumed for nonresidential uses (commercial, industrial, and agricultural operations), as well as street lighting and institutional buildings such as schools and community facilities. The SCE service area covers most of Mono County including the communities of Benton, Bridgeport, Chalfant, June Lake, Lee Vining, and Toms Place. In 2010, SCE provided approximately 83% of the electricity used in the unincorporated county. Beginning in 2011, Liberty Utilities assumed responsibility from Sierra Pacific Power Company to provide electricity service to the northern portion of Mono County, including the unincorporated communities of Coleville, Topaz, and Walker. In 2010, Liberty Utilities provided approximately 17% of the electricity used in the unincorporated county. Residents have recently expressed interest in improving the system of utility poles and lines countywide as a means of reducing wildfire hazards.

Heating Fuels. Wood and propane are the primary heating fuels in Mono County, with small amounts of other sources, such as kerosene. There is no network of natural gas pipelines serving this region. Approximately 4.6 million gallons of propane were used in 2010. Propane is used in some residential (979,070 gallons) and nonresidential buildings (3.63 million gallons). Wood is the other source of heating fuel emissions. Approximately 9,930 tons of wood were used to heat residential buildings in 2010. Mono County government buildings and facilities relied mostly on propane, with limited diesel use for backup generators.

4.13.6 COMMUNICATIONS.²

Mono County has until recently experienced poor quality broadband access due to its remote location and dispersed population. Capacity issues were resolved in 2013-14 through completion of a fiber optic cable ("Digital 395") linking

¹ Information in this section was drawn from the *Mono County Resource Efficiency Plan, Baseline Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Report*, 18 September 2014, prepared by PMC.

² Mono County LTC Agenda Packet, Draft Communications Policy, 2-9-15.

southern California to northern Nevada via the US 395 corridor. The County is now exploring ways to expand the speed, reliability, cost and accessibility of broadband service, and participating in local, regional, statewide, and federal efforts to improve the utilization of broadband and communications technologies (including cellular service). Mono County has developed a *Draft Communications Policy* that is part of the current *RTP/General Plan Update* and sets forth goals, objectives and actions to achieve the broad purposes noted above.

4.13.7 SOLID WASTE SERVICES³

Description of Solid Waste Services. Solid waste services in Mono County include disposal facilities (landfills) and non-disposal facilities (transfer stations). Three active landfills accept disposal of solid waste in Mono County. Two landfills (Pumice Valley and Walker) currently accept only inert commercial and demolition (C&D) waste for burial, and transfer all municipal solid waste off-site for disposal. The regional Benton Crossing Landfill is the County's sole municipal solid waste disposal landfill. This facility received wastes from the general public, from the outlying Transfer Stations, and from commercial collection routes in the county. The facility also performs non-disposal functions including the processing and diversion of clean wood waste, as well as the processing and sorting of certain C&D waste (crushing of C&D aggregate material and sorting of mixed C&D to reduce the amount of metal and clean wood in the mixed loads). Benton Crossing Landfill also provides sludge management and diversion services for biosolid wastes originating primarily from Mammoth Community Water District in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Some solid wastes originating in the northern part of the county are taken to Lockwood Regional Landfill in Sparks, Nevada, when such transfer presents logistical benefits. Table 4.13-2 summarizes permit information for existing landfills.

TABLE 4.13-2: EXISTING MONO COUNTY LANDFILLS					
Name	Permit Number	Permit Owner	Facility Operator	Operational Status	Permit Date
Benton	26-AA-0006	Mono County	Mono County	Post-Closure	6/17/13
Benton Crossing	26-AA-0004	LADWP	Mono County	Active	3/8/13
Bridgeport	26-AA-0002	Mono County	Mono County	Post-Closure	6/17/13
Chalfant	26-AA-0005	Mono County	Mono County	Post-Closure	6/17/13
Pumice	26-AA-0003	LADWP	Mono County	Active C&D	7/14/78
Walker	26-AA-0001	Mono County	Mono County	Active C&D	5/22/07

The County maintains 6 low volume Transfer Stations in communities throughout the county, all of which are operated under contract (currently by D&S Waste of Yerington, NV). The facilities accept municipal solid waste for transfer to a disposal site, and also accept materials for recycling including glass, aluminum, plastic, batteries, oils and paint (BOP), metal and wood wastes. At all facilities except Paradise, wood waste is processed on site by County personnel, and beneficially re-used for ADC post-closure maintenance. Chipped wood waste is also offered to the general public for personal use. The percentage of diverted waste received at the Transfer Stations averages approximately 30%.

Recyclable material from the transfer stations is transported to a variety of other facilities for future processing. In some cases, materials are consolidated at Benton Crossing Landfill where they await on-site processing and/or pickup (metal, BOP). Aluminum, glass and plastic are hauled to other recycling centers where they are processed and eventually transported to market.

Outside the County's jurisdiction but playing a significant role in the overall system is the Transfer Station and Recycling Center located in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. This facility is owned and operated by Mammoth Disposal, and currently accepts municipal solid waste for transfer to Benton Crossing Landfill, as well as BOP, metal, and other recyclable materials for transport to market.

Two commercial haulers provide residential and commercial waste collection services in the unincorporated areas of Mono County (Mammoth Disposal based in Mammoth Lakes, and D&S Waste based in Yerington, NV). Mammoth

³ Mono County, *Final Draft Non-Disposal Facility Element of the Mono County Integrated Waste Management Plan*, August 2014.

Disposal (a subsidiary of Waste Connections, Inc.) is also the franchise hauler and service provider for the Town of Mammoth Lakes' mandated residential and commercial service. Curbside recycling services are offered throughout the Town and in some parts of the county by Sierra Conservation Project. Other businesses such as Shred-Pro (mixed paper shredding service) and Mammoth Rock-n-Dirt (aggregate crushing) contribute to the recycling services available in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Self-hauling of waste and recyclable materials is available to all residents of Mono County, with eight Transfer Stations and landfills located near population centers.

Solid Waste Task Force. The Mono County Local Solid Waste Task Force (LTF) was originally established by the county Board of Supervisors and ratified by the Town of Mammoth Lakes in 1990 in keeping with the requirements of PRC §40950. Following a period of inactivity, the LTF was reorganized and reauthorized by the County and Town in 1999, with responsibility for developing the 2000 Comprehensive Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP), which has guided the County's solid waste system until the present time.

Task Force membership was modified in May 2004 to replace inactive participants, and again in 2006 with the emergence of new stakeholders and agency staff. The CIWMP was formally updated in 2012 to address new and emerging infrastructure and diversion programs as well as the upcoming closure of the regional Benton Crossing Landfill; new bylaws and membership were also approved during 2012. The LTF plays a central role in waste management, with responsibility for the following duties:

- Provide guidance to jurisdictions responsible for Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE), Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE) and Non-Disposal Facility Element (NDFE) preparation, including review of goals, policies, and procedures to meet the solid waste management needs of the County and State laws.
- Provide technical guidance and assistance to jurisdictions implementing and updating the SRRE, HHWE, NDFE.
- Identify solid waste management issues of countywide or regional concern.
- Determine the need for solid waste collection and transfer systems, processing facilities, and marketing strategies that can serve more than one local jurisdiction within the region.
- Facilitate the development of multijurisdictional arrangements for the marketing of recyclable materials.
- To the extent possible, facilitate resolution of conflicts and inconsistencies between or among city and county source reduction and recycling elements.
- Develop goals, policies, and procedures (per CalRecycle guidelines and regulations) to guide the development of the siting element of the countywide integrated waste management plan.

4.13.4 REGULATORY SETTING

4.13.4.1 Federal Regulations

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The 1990 ADA (42 US Code [USC] 12181) prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in public accommodation and state and local government services. Under the ADA, the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board issues guidelines to ensure that public facilities, public sidewalks, and street crossings are accessible to individuals with disabilities. Typical ADA improvements include creating parking spaces for handicap use, restroom modifications, door hardware requirements, and lighting upgrades. Play areas, meeting rooms, park restrooms, and other public buildings and park structures must comply with ADA requirements. Park facilities under the proposed project would be required to be ADA compliant.

4.13.4.2 State Regulations

California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA). In accordance with CCR Title 8 §1270 "Fire Prevention" and §6773 "Fire Protection and Fire Equipment," Cal/OSHA has established minimum standards for fire suppression and emergency medical services. The standards include, but are not limited to, guidelines on the handling

of highly combustible materials, fire hose sizing requirements, restrictions on the use of compressed air, access roads, and the testing, maintenance, and use of all fire-fighting and emergency medical equipment.

California Health and Safety Code. State fire regulations are set forth in §13000 et seq. of the California Health and Safety Code. This includes regulations for building standards (as also set forth in the California Building Code), fire protection and notification systems, fire protection devices such as extinguishers and smoke alarms, high-rise building and childcare facility standards, and fire suppression training.

California Department of Education (CDE). The CDE School Facilities Planning Division (SFPD) School Site Selection and Approval Guide provides criteria for locating appropriate school sites. School site and size recommendations were modified by the CDE in 2000 to reflect changes in educational conditions (such as lower class sizes and use of advanced technology) and to address concerns over growing use of school buildings and grounds for joint use purposes of the community and local agencies. Specific recommendations for school size are provided in the School Site Analysis and Development Guide, including a recommended ratio of 1:2 between buildings and land (while acknowledging that this may be infeasible in some urban settings). Other factors weighed in site selection include proximity to certain land uses (airports, high-voltage power transmission lines, railroads, and major roadways), the presence of toxic and hazardous substances and hazardous facilities and hazardous air emissions, proximity to certain storage and conveyance facilities (high-pressure natural gas lines, propane storage facilities, gasoline lines, pressurized sewer lines, or high-pressure water pipelines), noise levels, results of geological studies or soil analyses; and traffic and school bus safety issues.

Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2002 (Prop 47). Approved by California voters in November 2002, this act provided a bond issue of \$13.05 billion to fund education facilities to relieve overcrowding and repair older schools. Funds were targeted at areas of greatest need and could also be used to upgrade and build new classrooms in the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California to growing student enrollment.

Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998 (SB 50). In combination with the \$9.2 billion education bond act approved by the voters in 1998 (Prop 1A), this act reformed methods for the financing of school construction in California. The act included a new school facility program by which school districts can apply for state construction and modernization funds, imposed limitations on the power of cities and counties to require mitigation of school facilities impacts as a condition of development approval, and provided authority for districts to levy fees at three different levels based on specific factors such as the number of students on year-round schedules, debt levels, use of temporary classrooms, degree of public investment in local bond efforts, available state funding, and other considerations.

California Integrated Waste Management Act (CIWMA) of 1989. Effective January 1990, the CIWMA required cities and counties to divert 25% of all solid waste from landfill facilities by January 1, 1995, and 50% by January 1, 2000. Each city is required to develop solid waste plans demonstrating integration of the CIWMA requirements, including (in order of priority) source reduction, recycling and composting, and environmentally safe transformation and land disposal.

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Decision 95-08-038. CPUC Decision 95-08-038 contains rules for the planning and construction of new transmission facilities, distribution facilities, and substations. The decision requires permits for the construction of certain power line facilities or substations if voltages would exceed 50 kilovolts (kV) or if the substation would require the acquisition of land. Distribution lines and substations with voltages less than 50 kV are not required to comply with this decision but remain subject to nondiscretionary local permits. CEQA compliance is required for construction of facilities constructed in accordance with the decision.

California Department of Education. The California Education Code contains various provisions governing the siting, design, and construction of new public schools (§§17211, 17212, and 17212.5). In addition, to help focus and manage the site selection process, the California Department of Education's (CDE's) School Facilities and Planning Division has developed screening and ranking procedures based on criteria commonly affecting school selection. The foremost consideration in the selection of school sites is safety; thus, in selecting a school site, school districts consider such factors as proximity to airports, proximity to high-voltage power transmission lines, presence of toxic and hazardous substances, hazardous air emissions, and facilities within one-quarter mile, and proximity to railroads.

California Department of Health Services (DHS). DHS regulates recycled wastewater under CCR Title 22, Division 4. The regulations focus on protection of public health associated with recycled water use. Title 22 regulations establish acceptable levels of constituents in recycled water for a range of uses, and stipulate means for ensuring reliability in the production of recycled water. CDPH has jurisdiction over the distribution of recycled wastewater and the enforcement of Title 22 regulations, while the RWQCB is responsible for issuing waste discharge requirements (including discharge prohibitions, monitoring, and reporting programs). RWQCB also oversees re-use requirements associated with the implementation of wastewater reclamation projects. CCR Title 17, Division 1 establishes requirements for protection of potable water systems where there is a potential for cross-contamination with recycled water. In Mono County, only MCWD engages in water reclamation and reuse activities subject to these requirements.

California Energy Commission (CEC) SB 1037 & AB 2021. Signed into law in September 2005, SB 1037 mandates that all publicly-owned utilities (POUs) must report to the CEC on cost-effective and feasible energy efficiency programs. AB 2021 was chaptered in 2006 and built upon SB 1037, further requiring POUs to develop energy efficiency targets on a triennial basis. The CEC is authorized to set targets for all municipal utilities. (Note that POUs do not report to the California Public Utilities Commission, which oversees investor-owned utilities.)

Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000T (AB2838).⁴ AB2838 established the requirement for LAFCOs to conduct reviews of local municipal services as a means of promoting orderly growth and development, preserving open space and agricultural land resources, and working to provide high quality, cost effective public services to California residents. MSRs include, for each service reviewed, LAFCO's determinations concerning: Infrastructure needs or deficiencies; Growth and population projections for the affected area; Financing constraints and opportunities; Cost avoidance opportunities; Opportunities for rate restructuring; Opportunities for shared facilities; Government structure options, including advantages and disadvantages of consolidation or reorganization of service providers; Evaluation of management efficiencies; and Local accountability and governance.

4.13.4.3 Regional and Local Regulations

Numerous local and regional regulations are in place to ensure that services and utilities are delivered in a manner that protects consumer and worker safety, ensures adequate environmental safeguards, establish standards of adequacy, describe compliance requirements and enforcement mechanisms, set forth operating principles and reporting requirements and achieve other purposes. Plans and regulations reviewed in this EIR section include the Integrated Waste Management Plan, the Emergency Operations Plan, the Communications Policy, governance of special districts and educational and police services, and energy and resource efficiency and conservation.

4.13.5 SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

Appendix G of the California CEQA Guidelines offer the following criteria for determining the significance of impacts to public services and utilities.⁵ A project would have a potentially significant impact if it would:

- a) **Create a need for new or modified governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:**
 - Police protection
 - Schools
 - Other public facilities , services and utilities
- b) **Result in a wasteful, inefficient, and/or unnecessary consumption of energy.**
- c) **Be served by a landfill with insufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs and fail to comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste.**

4.13.6 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATING POLICIES AND ACTIONS

⁴ California OPR, *Final Local Agency Formation Commission Municipal Service Review Guidelines*, August 2003

⁵ EIR §4.8, Hydrology, discusses baseline conditions and potential impacts on water supplies & wastewater treatment requirements.

IMPACT 4.13(a): Would implementation of the proposed RTP/General Plan Update create a need for new or modified governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services including (a) Police Protection? (b) School Services? (c) Other Public Services and Utilities

POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed General Plan *Land Use Element* would, if approved and implemented, yield maximum buildout housing and population levels much higher than were present as of the 2010 Census but roughly equivalent to the levels that would be allowed with the existing 2001 General Plan (please see EIR §4.1-Land Use, and §4.12-Population for further discussion). As with the existing 2001 *General Plan Land Use Element*, policies underlying allowed development levels throughout Mono County are designed to focus future growth in and adjacent to existing communities

POLICE, SCHOOL AND SOCIAL SERVICES. The relatively unchanged build-out population and strengthened emphasis on compact growth patterns will moderate future demands on and need for police protection, school enrollment capacity, and utility services relative to what would occur under the current adopted *General Plan*. Impacts on future school enrollment would, absent other factors, be largely unchanged from the levels shown in 2001. However, changing demographics may contribute to a reduced rate of growth in the student population. As shown in Table 4.13-3, the Department of Finance forecasts that median age in Mono County will increase dramatically over the coming decades, rising from 36.8 years in 2010 to 48.8 years in 2050; for female residents, the median is expected to increase from 37.4 years in 2010 to 51.2 years in 2050.

TABLE 4.13-3: Mono County Median Age Forecasts 2010-2050 (in years) ⁶			
YEAR	TOTAL MEDIAN AGE	FEMALE MEDIAN AGE	MALE MEDIAN AGE
2010	36.8	37.4	36.4
2025	42.3	43.4	41.4
2035	47.4	48.7	46.1
2050	48.8	51.2	46.6

Future demands for police services are expected to follow a similar pattern, with potential reductions linked to the rising median age. The inverse relationship between aging and criminal activity is well documented, and recent data suggest a long-term trend toward younger age-crime distributions. Currently, the group with the highest age-specific arrest rate is younger than 25 for all crimes reported by the FBI except gambling; even the median age is younger than 30 for most crimes.⁷

In contrast, future impacts on social services may increase at a disproportionately higher rate than General Plan growth due to demographic trends. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has documented an epidemiological transition in the leading causes of death, from infectious disease and acute illness to chronic disease and degenerative illness.⁸ This transition, coupled with the rising number of older persons, is expected to have significant consequences for public health. The CDC recommends that public health agencies and community organizations prepare for these changes by expanding their traditional scope from infectious diseases and maternal/child health to include health promotion in older adults, prevention of disability, maintenance of capacity in those with frailties and disabilities, and enhancement

⁶ Calif. Department of Finance, Report P-3: Population Projections by Race/Ethnicity, Detailed Age, and Gender, 2010-2060, <http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/reports/projections/P-3/>.

⁷ J. Ulmer, D. Steffensmeier, Pennsylvania State University, *The Age and Crime Relationship, Social Variation, Social Explanations*, Sage Publications (undated). Obtained at http://www.sagepub.com/upm-data/60294_Chapter_23.pdf.

⁸ Centers for Disease Control, Public Health and Aging: Trends in Aging --- United States and Worldwide February 14, 2003 <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5206a2.htm>.

of quality of life. Given the fact that disease-risk behaviors often begin early in life, the CDC recommends that public health systems support life-long healthy behaviors, with tools to monitor health outcomes.

The changes noted above have significant implications for the financing of police, school and social services, and will also impact the manner in which these services are delivered in Mono County (and elsewhere). However, these changes are not due to impacts caused by the *Draft RTP/General Plan* or related planning initiatives; the impacts are instead tied to large-scale demographic trends. The impacts of *RTP/General Plan* approval on education, policing, and social services are considered to be less than significant.

SPECIAL DISTRICTS. The Mono County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) prepares and updates municipal service reviews (MSRs) generally on a five year schedule. The reviews (prepared between October 2008 and October 2009) examine all special districts in Mono County and include an assessment of infrastructure needs and deficiencies, growth and population projections, financing constraints and cost avoidance opportunities and opportunities for rate restructuring, opportunities for sharing of facilities, government structure options (including consolidation or reorganization of services), evaluation of management efficiencies, and local accountability and governance. To date, the Mono County LAFCO has prepared 27 Municipal Service Reviews and Sphere of Influence recommendations for districts in Mono County. The reviews were all prepared between October 2008 and October 2009, and include reviews for Antelope Valley Fire Protection District, Antelope Valley Water District, Birchim Community Services District, Bridgeport Fire Protection District, Bridgeport Public Utility District, Chalfant Valley Fire/Community Services District, County Service Areas #1, #2 and #5, countywide County Service Area, Hilton Creek Community Services District, June Lake Fire Protection District, June Lake Public Utility District, Lee Vining Fire Protection District, Lee Vining Public Utility District, Long Valley Fire Protection District, Mammoth Community Water District, Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District, Mammoth Lakes Mosquito Abatement District, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mono City Fire Protection District, Paradise Fire Protection District, Southern Mono Healthcare District, Wheeler Crest Community Services District, Wheeler Crest Fire Protection District, and White Mountain Fire Protection District.⁹

As a whole, the MSRs acknowledge that regional service districts may in the future provide more efficient service than do the existing small districts, but do not recommend changes in the existing service districts. There are two exceptions, however, as noted below:

1. **County Service Areas (CSAs):** Mono County currently has four CSAs: CSA #1 provides TV service and community improvements in Long Valley; CSA #2 provides TV service in the Tri-Valley; CSA #5 provides TV service and community improvements in Bridgeport; and the countywide CSA serves as an administrative and funding entity to facilitate provision of various services to zones of benefit established throughout the county. LAFCO has recommended that CSAs #1, #2 and #5 should ultimately dissolve, and their service functions and advisory boards should become a Zone of Benefit ('ZOB') in the countywide County Service Area (CWCSA). The ZOB would function in the same manner as the former CSA functioned. The same reorganization recommendation is included in the MSR for CSA #2 and CSA #5.
2. **Southern Mono Healthcare District:** The MSR notes that although the District's existing Sphere of Influence is the same the district's current boundaries, its actual service area extends beyond those boundaries to include a clinic in Bridgeport and clients throughout Mono County and into Inyo County. Based on this, LAFCO recommends that the Sphere of Influence be expanded to include lands from the Bridgeport Valley south to the Inyo County line, including areas in Wheeler Crest and Paradise that are currently excluded. The MSR also includes recommends consideration of a future reorganization wherein the Southern Mono Healthcare District, Northern Inyo Hospital District, and any other affected agencies, would reorganize to provide a regional healthcare system for the Eastern Sierra.

Table 4.13-5 summarizes key concerns as identified by LAFCO for Mono County special districts.

⁹ Mono County LAFCO website (<http://www.monocounty.ca.gov/lafco>).

TABLE 4.13-4: Overview of Concerns noted in LAFCO MSR Reviews of Special Districts in Mono County¹⁰

Criteria	Key Points raised in MSR
ANTELOPE VALLEY FPD	
Infrastructure Needs & Deficiencies	The uncertain availability of a long-term reliable water supply directly impacts the district's ability to provide fire suppression services. Capacity to serve new development will be contingent on development of long-term dedicated water sources.
	Infrastructure renovation, replacement & development will be needed to maintain quality of service
Growth Projections	Significant growth is projected in the 2001 General Plan, primarily in and near existing developments; growth will increase demand for fire & emergency services.
Financing	AVFPD should consider raising its fire mitigation fee which (at \$0.30sf of new development) is the lowest in the county.
Efficiencies	The ISO rating of 6 (areas within 1,000' of a water hydrant) and nine (areas beyond that distance) indicate that AVFPD may not have the resources/personnel to serve long-term needs.
ANTELOPE VALLEY WATER DISTRICT (inactive district)	
BIRCHIM COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT (no significant service recommendations)	
BRIDGEPORT FPD	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	Infrastructure renovation, replacement and development will be needed to maintain quality of service
Financing	The adequacy of funding sources has steadily declined as costs have risen; it has become increasingly difficult to maintain service levels.
	Existing fire mitigation fees are above the county average.
Efficiencies	The ISO rating of 6 indicates that BFPD may not have the resources/personnel to serve long-term needs.
	The district has no long-range plan to address demands of future growth, although significant growth is allowed in the 2001 General Plan.
BRIDGEPORT PUD	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	The replacement and purchase of additional equipment may be needed to maintain quality of service.
Financing	The adequacy of funding sources has steadily declined as costs have risen; there is a need to ensure that assessments are kept current.
Efficiencies	Although substantial growth would be allowed by the 2001 General Plan, the PUD has no long-term planning documents that address how to maintain current service levels and minimal information on equipment and facility needs for the future.
Sphere of Influence (SOI)	The SOI encompasses some private lands planned for development that are more than 1 mile from the nearest water or sewer line and may be cost prohibitive to connect to the system.
CHALFANT VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	The uncertain availability of a long-term reliable water supply directly impacts the district's ability to provide fire suppression services. Capacity to serve new development will be contingent on development of long-term dedicated water
	Infrastructure renovation, replacement and development will be needed to maintain quality of service.
	The FD needs a long-term solution to the lack of sufficient volunteer personnel.
Growth Projections	Significant growth is projected in the 2001 General Plan, primarily in and near existing developments; growth will increase demand for fire & emergency services.

¹⁰ Note that this review does not include MCWD, Mammoth Lakes Fire District, Mammoth Lakes CSD and Mammoth Lakes Mosquito Abatement District, all of which are governed by the Town of Mammoth Lakes and/or in accordance with Town planning.

	Tri-Valley Area Plan policies require the County to allow additional residential subdivision only when adequate services (including fire protection) are available or planned.
Financing	The adequacy of funding sources (property taxes) has steadily declined as costs have risen; it has become increasingly difficult to maintain service levels.
	Existing fire mitigation fees are above the county average.
Resources	The Tri-Valley currently has no paramedic service.
Efficiencies	The district has no long-range plan to address demands of future growth, although significant growth is allowed in the 2001 General Plan. A budget with identified funding sources is needed.
	The ISO rating of 9 indicates that CVFD may not have the resources/personnel to serve long-term needs.
COUNTY SERVICE AREA #1	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	District equipment is located in remote locations that are nearly impossible to access in winter; months can pass without being able to repair problems and reactivate TV reception in the district if damage occurs during a winter storm.
Growth Projections	Significant growth is projected in the 2001 General Plan, primarily in and near existing developments; growth will increase demand for fire & emergency services; seasonal visitor populations can substantially increase demands for service.
Government Structure Options	CSA #1 boundaries encompass three other CSAs, creating district & administrative overlap; creation of a Zone of Benefit encompassing all CSAs may reduce overlap.
Efficiencies	CSA #1 has no long-term planning documents but is discussing a 10-year budget.
COUNTY SERVICE AREA #2	
Growth Projections	Significant growth is projected in the 2001 General Plan, primarily in and near existing developments; growth will increase demand for fire & emergency services; seasonal visitor populations can substantially increase demands for service.
Government Structure Options	CSA #2 boundaries encompass three other CSAs, creating district & administrative overlap; creation of a Zone of Benefit encompassing all CSAs may reduce overlap.
Efficiencies	CSA #2 has no long-term planning documents.
COUNTY SERVICE AREA #5	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	District equipment and service is obsolete.
Government Structure Options	CSA #2 boundaries encompass three other CSAs, creating district & administrative overlap; creation of a Zone of Benefit encompassing all CSAs may reduce overlap.
Efficiencies	CSA #2 has no long-term planning documents.
COUNTYWIDE SERVICE AREA #2	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	Countywide Service Area 2 has no facilities or equipment, but may acquire facilities and would at that time need to develop capital improvement plans.
Government Structure Options	Area 2 boundaries encompass three other CSAs, creating district & administrative overlap; creation of a Zone of Benefit encompassing all CSAs may reduce overlap.
HILTON CREEK CSD	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	The district needs to develop long-term planning documents to assess future infrastructure/service needs, identify projects and costs to meet those needs, and outline a financial plan to pay for future needs and service.
Growth Projections	Significant growth is projected in the 2001 General Plan for this area.
Financing & Cost Opportunities	The adequacy of funding sources has steadily declined as costs have risen; there is need to develop a Financial Strategic Plan.
	The District does not participate in JPAs as a means to reduce insurance costs.
	The District should seek grant funding.
Efficiencies	The District has no long-term planning documents or service projections; such plans are needed to maintain service levels & provide for the needs of future development.
JUNE LAKE FPD	

Growth Projections	Future growth, esp. at the Rodeo Grounds, will place added pressure for augmented services, replacement of aging equipment, and adequate volunteer personnel.
	Policies in the June Lake Area Plan require the County to allow additional residential subdivision only when adequate services (including fire protection) are available.
Financing & Cost Opportunities	It is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain existing service levels as costs rise; the district regularly seeks and receives grant funding.
	A variety of potentially useful benefit plans and cost avoidance measures are available to increase volunteers and reduce costs.
JUNE LAKE PUD	
Financing & Cost Opportunities	The adequacy of funding sources (property taxes) has steadily declined as costs have risen; there is need to ensure that property tax assessments are kept current.
LEE VINING FPD	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	Infrastructure renovation, replacement and development will be needed to maintain quality of service
Growth Projections	Future growth and aging of the population will place added demands on fire and emergency medical services.
Resources	Lee Vining FPD has no paramedic service.
Government Structure Options	Creation of a regional district (combining services in Mono City and Lee Vining) could create a more financial stable district with more a cohesive approach to long-term service requirements.
Efficiencies	The FPD has no long-term planning documents.
LEE VINING PUD	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	The district needs to develop long-term planning documents to assess future water infrastructure, supply, distribution and treatment needs.
Growth Projections	Significant growth is projected in the 2001 General Plan for this area.
Financing & Cost Opportunities	The adequacy of funding sources has steadily declined as costs have risen; there is need to develop a Financial Strategic Plan.
Government Structure Options	Creation of a regional district (combining services in Mono City and Lee Vining) could reduce costs and create a more financial stable district with more a cohesive approach to long-term service requirements.
Efficiencies	CSA #2 has no long-term planning documents.
LONG VALLEY FPD	
Growth Projections	Future growth and aging of the population will place added demands on fire and emergency medical services.
Financing & Cost Opportunities	The adequacy of funding sources has steadily declined as costs have risen; there is need to ensure that assessments are kept current.
MONO CITY FPD	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	The district needs to develop long-term plans to renovate/replace aging equipment, ensure adequate volunteer personnel, and address need for paved access.
Growth Projections	Future growth and aging of the population will place added demands on fire and emergency medical services.
Financing and Cost Opportunities	The adequacy of funding sources has steadily declined as costs have risen; it has become increasingly difficult to maintain service levels.
	Existing fire mitigation fees are below the county average.
Government Structure Options	Creation of a regional district (combining services in Mono City and Lee Vining) could create a more financial stable district with more a cohesive approach to long-term service requirements.
Efficiencies	The FPD has no long-term planning documents.
PARADISE FPD	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	The district needs to renovate/replace aging equipment, ensure adequate volunteer personnel, and address need for paved access.
Growth Projections	Future growth and aging of the population will place added demands on fire and emergency medical services without providing for commensurate revenue increases.

Resources	Paradise FPD has no paramedic service.
Efficiencies	The District needs to develop long-term planning documents to address budgeting, cost management and personnel requirements.
	The ISO rating of 8/9 indicates that PFPD may not have the resources/personnel to serve long-term needs.
Government Structure Options	Paradise FPD has expressed an interest in combining with other districts to form a Southern Mono FPD.
SOUTHERN MONO HEALTH CARE DISTRICT	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	The district indicates that recruitment and retention of health personnel is an ongoing major challenge.
Growth Projections	Town and county general plans allow for significant additional growth in the district.
Financing and Cost Opportunities	The district notes that some services are infeasible due to low population, and cost per patient is high due to low volume, and notes an opportunity to address these concerns through collaboration with Northern Inyo Hospital District.
	A significant percentage of admissions are from outside district boundaries, including Bishop, Chalfant, Wheeler Crest and elsewhere.
Government Structure Options	The district has identified an opportunity work with the Northern Inyo District to form a regional healthcare system for the eastern Sierra.
Wheeler Crest CSD – no special concerns noted	
WHEELER CREST FPD	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	District needs to renovate/replace aging equipment ensure adequate volunteer personnel.
	Emergency access to the area is a concern to residents
Growth Projections	Aging of the population will place added demands on fire and emergency medical services.
	Wheeler Crest Area Plan policies require the County to allow additional residential development only when adequate services (including fire protection) are available.
Financing & Cost Opportunities	It is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain existing service levels as costs rise; the district regularly seeks and receives grant funding.
Efficiencies	The FPD has no long-term planning documents.
	The ISO rating of 4/9 indicates that Wheeler Crest FPD may not have the resources/personnel to serve long-term needs.
Government Structure Options	Formation of a regional fire district in southern Mono Co. may reduce administrative costs, eliminate duplication of services, and create a more financially stable district.
WHITE MOUNTAIN FPD	
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies	The uncertain availability of a long-term reliable water supply directly impacts the district's ability to provide fire suppression services. Capacity to serve new development will be contingent on development of long-term dedicated water sources.
	Infrastructure renovation, replacement, development will be needed to maintain service quality.
	The District needs a long-term solution to the lack of sufficient volunteer personnel.
Growth Projections	Significant growth projected in the 2001 General Plan (primarily in and near existing developments) will increase demand for fire & emergency services; seasonal visitor populations can substantially increase demands for service.
	Policies in the Tri-Valley Area Plan require the County to allow additional residential subdivision only when adequate services (including fire protection) are available or planned for development.
Financing & Cost Opportunities	The district should consider raising its fire mitigation fee, which is among the lowest in the county and annexing the withdrawn lands to which it provides services.
	It is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain existing service levels as costs rise; the district may want to consider coordinating with other districts to seek grants
Efficiencies	White Mountain FPD has no long-term planning documents and needs to develop a budget and funding sources that will allow for the development of contingency funds
	The ISO rating of 8 indicates that PFPD may not have the resources/personnel to serve long-term needs.

Government Structure Options	A regional Tri-Valley fire protection entity might best provide fire protection services for the area, reduce administrative costs, eliminate duplication of services in the Hammil Valley, and permit greater economies of scale.
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Information provided in Table 4.13-5 above indicates that several of the special districts throughout Mono County are struggling to meet existing demands, and may be unprepared to meet the additional demands associated with future growth. Issues of particular concern include:

- Fire districts with uncertain availability of reliable future water supplies (including Antelope Valley, Chalfant Valley and White Mountain FPDs), all of which are shown for significant future growth;
- Several Mono County communities are dealing with issues pertaining to water resources including June Lake (water supply), Bridgeport (water quality-arsenic), and Crowley Lake.
- Fire districts with low ISO ratings (including Antelope Valley, Bridgeport [the County notes that the BPF D ISO has improved since the MSR was prepared], Chalfant Valley, Paradise, Wheeler Crest and White Mountain); the low ISO rating increases insurance costs for these districts, many of which already lack sufficient financial resources;
- Fire districts with an insufficient pool of volunteer personnel (noted for Chalfant Valley, June Lake, Mono City);
- The cited lack of adequate access in Wheeler Crest, CSA #1 and Mono City; and
- The absence of long-term planning documents for all but a few of the special districts.

Based on the MSR findings, LAFCO has suggested a number of sphere changes and reorganizations that would have potential to enhance service delivery, reduce administrative costs, eliminate duplication of services and/or provide greater financial resources and economies of scale. However, LAFCO's recommendations are generally recommended only with the concurrence of the involved districts' Boards of Directors.

Among the recommendations contained in the *General Plan Update* are policies requiring that adequate public services and infrastructure are or will be available, as a condition of approval, to serve development, and requiring development projects to fund the costs of needed service and infrastructure improvements. In whole, the proposed *RTP/General Plan* policies and actions will enable special districts to deliver services more efficiently, and there are no elements of the project proposal that would adversely affect the special districts. However, the recommended plans and policies and programs will not reduce to less than significant levels the potential service gaps identified by LAFCO, and the potential that future development may occur in areas that are not fully equipped to assure services for residents. Project impacts on governmental services are thus considered to be ***potentially significant and adverse***.

RTP/GENERAL PLAN MITIGATING POLICIES & ACTIONS MITIGATING POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON PUBLIC SERVICES

Please refer to Table 4.13-9 in EIR Appendix D.

IMPACT 4.13(b): Would implementation of the proposed RTP/General Plan Update result in Wasteful, Inefficient, and Unnecessary Consumption of Energy?

LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. The proposed *RTP/General Plan Update* and related planning initiatives are not expected to result in significant waste, inefficient use or unnecessary consumption of energy supplies either during construction phases or through the operational life of the planning documents.

During construction, future projects would consume fuel energy supplies used by a wide range of equipment and construction vehicles. Fossil fuels used for construction vehicles and other energy-consuming equipment would be used during a) the clearing of project sites, b) grading and paving, c) collection and hauling of biomass resources, d) construction and periodic maintenance of trails, buildings, roads and parking facilities, e) closure of the Benton Regional landfill and preparation of one or more replacement and transfer sites for accepting wastes, f) numerous ancillary

features, and g) many other activities that are planned or contemplated over the life of the *RTP/General Plan Update* project and related planning activities. Fuel energy consumed during each construction phase would be temporary in nature, but construction activities and associated fuel consumption would occur throughout the lifetime of the *RTP/General Plan Update* and related planning initiatives. Strengthened requirements for equipment maintenance would result in fuel savings. Given the high cost of fuel, project sponsors and contractors have a strong financial incentive to avoid wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary consumption of energy during construction. In consideration of these factors, it is not anticipated that the construction of future projects consistent with the *RTP/General Plan Update* and related planning initiatives would result in wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary consumption of energy. This impact would be less than significant.

The operational phase of future activities conducted under the *RTP/General Plan Update* and related planning initiatives would consume energy for multiple purposes including, but not limited to, the occupancy and use of homes and lodging facilities, recreational features, businesses, transportation improvement projects, waste collection and disposal and recycling facilities, water collection and storage and treatment (and possibly future recycling) facilities, biomass utilization, ongoing agricultural and small-scale farming activities, and aviation and vehicle fuels consumed by airlines and motorists traveling to, from and within Mono County (all of which are forecast to increase).

To assess future impacts on utilities, the County has developed detailed demand forecasts over the build-out horizon in conjunction with the *Draft Resource Efficiency Plan*.¹¹ Table 4.13-5 summarizes forecast demands for facilities, lighting, the public vehicle fleet, solid waste and employee travel as well as demands for residential energy, nonresidential energy, private transportation, water and wastewater, agriculture and landfills. The forecasts are based on a resident population increase from 5,880 (2005) to 7,130 (2035 – a 19% increase over 2005), an effective population (including tourism) increase from 9,960 to 13,160, a household increase from 2,400 to 3,840, and an increase in annual vehicle miles travelled (VMT) from 3,190 to 3,840 (all figures rounded to the nearest 100). As shown in Table 4.13-5, future land uses consistent with the *RTP/General Plan Update* and related planning initiatives would result in an estimated increase of up to 9.22 million kilowatt hours of electricity, 831,500 gallons of propane, and fuel to support 5.52 million vehicle miles traveled in addition to existing demand.

TABLE 4.13-5: SERVICE AND UTILITY DEMAND FORECASTS, 2010 to 2035

SECTOR	Unit	2010	2020	2035	% Change 2005-2035
Residential Energy - electricity	kWh	18,888,200	19,925,200	22,443,600	+18.8%
- propane use	Gallons	979,100	1,032,800	1,163,400	+18.8%
- wood use	Tons	9,900	10,500	11,800	+18.8%
Nonresidential Energy - electricity	kWh	29,344,800	30,684,600	34,572,746	+17.8%
- propane use	Gallons	3,632,900	3,798,700	4,280,100	+17.8%
Transportation (passenger vehicles)	VMT	57,039,000	59,531,900	62,559,000	+9.7%
Solid Waste	Tons	6,400	6,700	7,500	+17.8%
Water/Wastewater					
- water-related energy use	kWh	2,292,200	2,396,900	2,700,600	+17.8%
- wastewater-related energy use	kWh	166,400	174,000	196,000	+17.8%
- wastewater treatment processing	Connections	1,200	1,200	1,400	+17.8%
- septic tanks	# tanks	2,200	2,300	2,600	+17.8%
Agriculture - domestic animal production	Heads	59,800	59,800	59,800	0%
- crop fertilization	Acres	16,200	16,200	16,200	0%
Landfills	Waste Tons	628,400	898,900	990,600	+57.6%

¹¹ Mono County, *GHG 2035 Emissions Estimates by Sector*, prepared by PMC. 2014.

The estimates shown in Table 4.13-4 reflect an anticipated 18-19% increase in demand for most services and utilities between 2010 and 2035, which is equivalent to anticipated population growth during the same period. The exceptions include agriculture (anticipated to remain at current levels through the forecast period), on-road vehicle miles travels (anticipated to increase by 9.7% over the 20-year forecast horizon), and landfill wastes (anticipated to more than double by 2035).

The increases shown above reflect efficiencies that will result from implementation of proposed *RTP/General Plan* policies and planning initiatives. All future development would be required to comply with current California Green Building Standards Code Title 24, Part 11 (Cal Green) energy performance standards as well as policies and actions contained in the *Mono County General Plan* and the *Resources Efficiency Plan* to address energy conservation. Moreover, policies contained in the *RTP/General Plan Update* and related planning initiatives would have a significant and lasting positive effect on energy efficiency in the planning area by incrementally modifying and adding land uses that are more energy, water and waste efficient (which would all reduce energy consumption), establishing a more connected and pedestrian/bicycle-friendly community to reduce transportation energy consumption, and replacing or removing over time many existing uses that are associated with wasteful, inefficient and/or unnecessary consumption of energy supplies. Of particular relevance are *Land Use Element* plans and policies that lower build-out development levels and concentrate future growth in existing communities; *RTP* policies that focus on expanded interregional and multi-modal circulation; *Conservation and Open Space Element* policies that place much greater emphasis on conservation of groundwater and surface water resources; proposed use of local forest biomass to generate power; *Resource Efficiency Plan* policies to achieve zero net energy use; and a capital improvement plan that includes a substantial investment in the replacement of the County's vehicle fleet with clean-air compliance vehicles.

Implementation of the proposed *RTP/General Plan Update* and planning initiatives would result in the consumption of energy, but such consumption would not be expected to be wasteful or inefficient. Moreover, and as noted in other EIR sections, the proposed *General Plan Land Use Element* envisions growth rates lower than the existing *Land Use Element*. Thus, despite the overall increase in demand for energy, the goals, objectives, policies, and actions outlined in Table 4.13-5 will emphasize energy efficient design of future land uses and communitywide energy efficiency, thereby minimizing wasteful, inefficient energy consumption. Therefore, this impact would be ***less than significant***.

RTP/GENERAL PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS, POLICIES & ACTIONS MITIGATING POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON OF ENERGY SUPPLIES

Please refer to Table 4.13-9 in EIR Appendix D.

<p>IMPACT 4.8(c): Would the project be served by a landfill with insufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs and fail to comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?</p>
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LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT. As part of the current *Draft RTP/General Plan Update*, the County has integrated its Hazardous Waste Management Element into the more comprehensive Integrated Waste Management Plan (IWMP). The IWMP includes a *Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE)* to ensure the safe collection, recycling, treatment, and disposal of hazardous wastes that are generated by households, a *Countywide Siting Element (CSE)* that monitors landfill capacity, ensures that capacity does not fall below 15 years and sets guidelines for the siting of new disposal facilities, and a *Non-Disposal Facility Element (NDFE)* that is used with the Siting Element to establish or expand non-disposal solid waste facilities such as transfer stations and recycling centers. The IWMP incorporates improvements in recycling & waste reduction, and reviews option for waste disposal after the closure of the Regional Benton Crossing Landfill. There is a fourth IRMP Element, the *Source Reduction and Recycling Element* (designed to reduce waste loads), that is updated annually and is not part of the current *RTP/General Plan Update* project.

The comprehensive update has three primary objectives: to incorporate state-of-the-art improvements in recycling & waste reduction, to review options for waste disposal after the closure of the Regional Benton Crossing Landfill, and to ensure that waste planning is coordinated with biomass utilization to the extent feasible. Potential impacts associated with individual program components are evaluated below.

Household Hazardous Waste Element. The HHWE notes that as of 1992, Mono County households (including the Town) generated 116,000 pounds of waste in whole, as detailed in Table 4.13-7.

TABLE 4.13-6: MONO COUNTY HOUSEHOLD WASTE GENERATION, 1992	
MATERIALS	POUNDS GENERATED
Waste Oil	14,000
Solvents	10,000
Pesticides	10,000
Dyes & Paints	64,000
Inorganic Liquids	2,000
Miscellaneous	16,000
Total	116,000

To arrive at a recommended set of policies for future management of household wastes, the HHWE reviews past and current programs. These have focused on education, load checking (to verify that wastes are directed to the proper disposal area), establishment of permanent and temporary collection sites, and mobile events. Collectively, these activities have been highly successful in removing materials from the waste stream, as evidenced by the volume of wastes collected. In 2013, Mono County collected over 220,000 pounds of HHW, representing 15.4 pounds per capita; the County's efforts ranked third out of California's 58 counties. Waste collection rates increased by almost 32% during 2014 when the County collected over 290,000 pounds of HHW for recycling or proper disposition. The HHWE also reviews and assesses alternatives that can be considered for future program changes or enhancements. The alternatives are profiled in Table 4.13-8.

4.13-7. Rating of HHWE Alternatives							
	Periodic HHW Collection	Permanent HHW Collection Facility	Temporary HHW Collection Facilities	Fee-based, door-to-door, curbside Programs	Load-Checking Programs	Oil, Paint, Battery (BOP), Recycling	Public Education
Effectiveness	Moderate	High	Moderate	Fees: not effective; others: effective	Moderate	High	High
Cost	\$75-80,000/event	High	Same as periodic	Extremely High	Costs borne by Landfill operator	Cost-savings	Part of IWMP costs
Institutional Factors	Requires contract & permits	Permitting may be difficult	Same as periodic	Complex	Depends on landfill management practices	Low	None
Policy Consistency	Consistent	Consistent	Consistent	Low	Consistent	Consistent	Consistent
Facility Needs	No new facilities required	Requires new collection & storage fac. per state standards	None required	New facility required	None	Required storage can be part of existing facilities	Can use existing facilities

Availability of Markets	Less than ideal	Stable	Same as periodic	Same as permanent	NA	??	NA
Ease of Implementation	Difficult	NA	Same as periodic	Difficult	NA	Easy	Easy
Hazards	Spills, fires, explosions, leaks (all preventable)	Same as periodic	Same as periodic	Same as periodic	None	Minimal	None
Flexibility	Limited	High	High	High	High	Moderate	High
Change in HHW generation	Low	None	None	None	None	Low	None

Based on the review of alternatives, the HHWE concludes that all existing programs merit continuation into the next planning period. A Permanent HHW Facility for the collection of additional HHW products is now fully operational at Benton Crossing Landfill, and the County has developed BOP collection facilities at all County Transfer Stations. Education and outreach programs are ongoing, as are mobile events when feasible.

Monitoring is essential to review the success of selected programs, and will include a) reporting to CalRecycle; b) comparing per capita pounds collected to averages for comparable California counties; c) periodic surveys of program participants; d) ongoing review to assess changes in HHW generation patterns and practices; and e) quantification of HHW source reduction to the extent feasible. The County will maintain ongoing public education to achieve short term objectives (to educate the public of proper HHW disposal and toxic materials hazards, and to encourage use of HHW alternatives) and medium term objectives to reduce HHW generation. The primary audiences are consumers and school-age children.

CalRecycle grants have been used to construct the permanent HHW facilities (and some later enhancements), as well as to fund continuing operations, outreach and training. Additionally, the County received an HD20 grant to improve collection infrastructure, outreach and mobile events. Disposal and other operational costs are funded by the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund.

Countywide Siting Element. The CSE is prepared by the County, with LTF guidance, and has nine main goals:

- Develop and maintain a long-term waste management infrastructure;
- Implement identified programs and policies in collaboration with the town, private industry and other entities as needed to implement new source reduction, recycling, composting and special waste programs;
- Encourage businesses, residents, organizations and public agencies to maximize source reduction and minimize waste disposal;
- Develop convenient opportunities for recycling;
- Encourage businesses, residents, organizations and public agencies to buy recycled products;
- Facilitate the safe collection, storage and shipment of household hazardous wastes for proper reuse, recycling, transformation, treatment or disposal;
- Ensure that long-term disposal capacity is available for non-reusable wastes
- Use Solid Waste Parcel Fees to fund environmentally appropriate closure and post-closure of landfills and invest in recycling infrastructure
- Identify programs that will provide materials for locally marketable recycled and recyclable products and
- Assist the private sector in developing recycling and reuse businesses.

The County is implementing five broad programs to achieve these goals:

- Safe Disposal Practices
 1. Comply with state minimum operating standards (for security, access, compaction and cover requirements and monitoring) at all County waste facilities,
 2. Update the operations plan for each landfill as circumstances change,

3. Continue to provide and maintain public awareness of County facilities for safe collection, storage, transportation or disposal of used motor oil and household hazardous wastes; maintain public awareness
4. Prepare and implement Final Closure Plans for County landfills as needed, with adequate funding for environmentally appropriate closure/post-closure activities.
- o Minimize Waste Generation
 5. Establish "reuse exchange" areas at County waste facilities for segregation and storage of re-usable goods.
- o Conduct and Promote Recycling
 6. Continue to provide collection facilities at County landfills and transfer stations; expand as opportunities arise for include additional materials;
 7. Establish collection receptacles at County parks and community areas to facilitate deposit of recyclable beverage containers. Provide for collection and recycling of the materials;
 8. Implement the county Mandatory Commercial Recycling Plan. Pursue grants & other assistance to enhance existing commercial recycling. Assist and encourage the establishment of recyclable collection, storage, and processing systems; assist in their promotion by including information in public education materials;
 9. Develop and widely distribute information to raise public awareness of recycling facilities and the importance of recycling;
 10. Continue to stockpile and grind wood waste materials at County waste facilities for reuse
 11. Continue to use equipment and staff to divert clean wood and scrap metal from the waste stream as time and safety permits;
 12. If feasible, develop an inmate work program for sorting single-stream recyclables collected in County facilities to produce, or bale & store, recyclable materials suitable for baling;
 13. Evaluate potential for set-aside area requirements for recyclable collection and storage facilities in the design of large-scale developments;
 14. Implement a diversion program for construction/demolition aggregate material at County landfills;
 15. Develop a Master Recycling Plan for all County facilities, and strive to achieve the highest diversion rate feasible from all County-owned facilities.
 16. Consider requiring countywide curbside recycling service ("Blue Bag" program) in future franchise contracts or separate franchise agreements
- o Conduct and Promote Recycled-Content Purchases
 17. Continue to promote the purchase of recycled-content goods by implementing the county Recycled Product Procurement Policy.
- o Ensure Long-Term Disposal Capacity
 18. Develop engineered design plans for Pumice Valley and Walker Landfills that utilizes disposal capacity within the existing waste footprint.
 19. As economics or capacity limits dictate, provide for Long Haul Transfer Infrastructure.

Table 4.13-9 sets forth the County's schedule for implementation of the goals above. The Mono County Board of Supervisors has authorized establishment of a solid waste enterprise fund through which the countywide program is operated. Revenues generated through parcel fees and gate fees provide the annual operating budget for the program, and the county pursues grants (from CalRecycle, the Department of Conservation and other sources) to obtain additional funding for recycling efforts.

TABLE 4.13-8: Implementation Schedule for CSE Goals					
Policy #	Status	Completion	Policy #	Status	Completion
1	Continuous	NA	10	Continuous	NA
2	Continuous	NA	11	Continuous	NA
3	Continuous	NA	12	In Progress	Spring 2014
4	Periodic	NA	13	In Progress	GP Update
5	In Progress	Autumn 2013	14	In Progress	Autumn 2013
6	Continuous	NA	15	In Progress	Winter 2013
7	Continuous	NA	16	Continuous	NA
8	Continuous	NA	17	Continuous	Summer 2014

9	Continuous	NA	18	Monitoring	As Necessary
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Non-Disposal Facility Element. The NDFE provides information about the County's non-disposal infrastructure for solid waste, including facilities that are considered part of the regional system, though not within the County's jurisdiction. Non-disposal facilities are defined PRC §40151a defines a non-disposal facility as any solid waste facility that is required to obtain a State Solid Waste Facility Permit (except a disposal facility or a transformation facility).

Whereas landfills serve the County's disposal requirements, the non-disposal facilities focus on diversion, CRV (California Redemption Value) buy-back centers, and transfer of waste. Each is briefly reviewed below.

- **Transfer Stations:** Mono County maintains six low-volume Transfer Stations in communities throughout the county. The Stations are operated under contract (currently D&S Waste of Yerington, NV); they accept municipal solid waste for transfer to a disposal site, as well materials for recycling, including glass, aluminum, plastic, HHW, metal and wood waste. The percentage of diverted waste received at the Transfer Stations averages approximately 30%. Waste from Transfer Stations south of Conway Summit is currently transferred to Benton Crossing Landfill, but waste received at Bridgeport and Walker Transfer Stations is occasionally transferred out of county to Lockwood Regional Landfill in Sparks, Nevada, when logistical benefits can be realized. At all facilities except Paradise, wood waste is processed on site by County personnel, and beneficially re-used for ADC or post-closure maintenance. Chipped wood waste is also offered to the general public for personal use.

Recyclable material from the transfer stations is transported to a variety of other facilities for future processing. In some cases, materials are consolidated at Benton Crossing Landfill where they await on-site processing and/or pickup (metal, HHW). Aluminum, glass and plastic are hauled to other recycling centers where they are processed and eventually transported to market.

Though not within County jurisdiction, the Transfer and Recycling Center in Mammoth Lakes plays a significant role in the overall system. This facility is owned and operated by Mammoth Disposal, and currently accepts municipal solid waste for transfer to Benton Crossing Landfill, as well as HHW, metal, and other recyclable materials for transport to market.

- **CRV Buyback Centers:** There are two CRV buyback centers located in the county. One is located at the Walker Senior Center in the north end of the county, and the Mammoth Lakes Recycling Center mentioned above.
- **Proposed Non-Disposal Facilities:** As the Town and County move toward increased diversion goals, and as closure of the Benton Regional Landfill approaches (in 2023) planning for Non-Disposal Facilities has been steadily increasing. The Town of Mammoth Lakes, in partnership with Mammoth Disposal, has planned for expansion of the Transfer Station that may include a long haul transfer station, a metals recovery facility (MRF), and a permanent HHW facility. Additionally, D&S Waste has proposed a Non-Disposal facility in the Mono Basin that may include long-haul transfer capability for county waste, as well as necessary recycling capabilities.

Many other concepts are being explored at this time, including a small scale sorting and baling facility located on County land to be run by inmate labor. Another concept is the early closure of Benton Crossing Landfill, coupled with the development of a Regional Recycling Center and Transfer Station. Yet another is the siting of a similar facility in close proximity to the Town of Mammoth Lakes, through a federal land exchange. The County anticipates that one or more of these proposals will come to fruition in the coming years.

In whole, the waste management planning effort represents a substantial priority and commitment for Mono County, and the County has to date achieved significant success in meeting goals for reducing waste disposal. Adoption of the comprehensive IWMP (including the *Summary Plan*, the *Non-Disposal Facility Element*, the *Siting Element* and the *Household Hazardous Waste Element*) as part of the overall *Draft RTP/General Plan Update*, will provide the County with an updated set of goals, policies and alternatives to achieve additional waste management goals in the years ahead.

General Plan Land Use Element. In addition to programs contained in the Draft *IWMP*, the proposed *Land Use Element Update* allows for small-scale composting (non-nuisance materials only, and in quantities of less than 100 cubic yards on site) in the agricultural, public facilities, and resource management land use designations, as well as commercial

composting activities subject to approval of a use permit. In addition, waste management facilities of varying intensity are provided for in the public facilities, industrial and industrial park designations.

In combination, the plans and programs described above will reduce potential project impacts to be *less than significant* levels. As noted in EIR §4.8, construction of landfills, landfill cells, or changes in waste accepted at currently operating landfills may require a revision to existing Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) or new WDRs; the LRWQCB notes that no changes may be made to operations at existing landfills until and unless the WDRs are revised.

**RTP/GENERAL PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS, POLICIES & ACTIONS MITIGATING IMPACTS ASSOCIATED
WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Please refer to Table 4.13-9 in EIR Appendix D.
